

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A targeted therapeutic delivery system for the controlled delivery of a therapeutic compound to a region of a patient comprising, in combination with a therapeutic compound, stabilized lipid microspheres encapsulating a gas or gaseous precursor and an oil, wherein said oil further encapsulates said gas or gaseous precursor.

2-46. (canceled)

47. (previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said gas or gaseous precursor is selected from the group consisting of fluorine, perfluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride, and perfluoroethers.

48. (canceled)

49. (previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said lipid comprises at least one phosphatidylcholine, at least one phosphatidylethanolamine, and at least one phosphatidic acid.

50. (previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 49 wherein said phosphatidylcholine is selected from the group consisting of dioleoylphosphatidylcholine, dimyristoylphosphatidylcholine, dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine, and distearoyl-phosphatidylcholine; said phosphatidylethanolamine is selected from the group consisting of dipalmitoylphosphatidylethanolamine, dipalmitoylphosphatidylethanolamine-PEG 5,000, dioleoyl-phosphatidylethanolamine, and N-succinyl-dioleoyl-phosphatidylethanolamine; and said phosphatidic acid is dipalmitoylphosphatidic acid.

51. (previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 1 wherein said oil is selected from the group consisting of silicone oil, cod liver oil, mineral oil, plant oil, oil comprising fluorinated triglycerides, biocompatible saturated fatty acids, biocompatible unsaturated fatty acids, biocompatible partially hydrogenated fatty acids, silicon-based oils, and synthetic oils.

52-54. (canceled)

55. (previously presented) The targeted therapeutic delivery system of claim 51 wherein said synthetic oil is selected from the group consisting of triolein, trimyristin, triacetin, tripalmitin, tristearin, tributyrin, glyceryl monoctanoate, and glyceryl monostearate.

56-59. (canceled)